

**REMARKS**

After entering the above amendments, claims 1-20 will be pending. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and allowance of the current application are requested.

**Rejections under 35 USC § 102**

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, and 12-19 are rejected under section 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Reiche (6,092,196).

The present claims are directed to systems and techniques for improved and efficient navigation in a web-based application. In particular, such systems and techniques enable a user to automatically return to a place in the application based on a last state of the application session before the application was terminated. Many applications do not monitor or persist the state of a session, or associate session state with a particular page of the application. Thus, when returning to a previously active application, the user is typically redirected to a page that the user has already navigated, and the user cannot continue where they had left off.

The present claims solve this shortcoming by a technique to receive a termination uniform resource locator (URL) from a client relating to a terminated web application session. The termination URL includes an external session identifier (ESID) that is generated specifically for the termination URL, and which identifies the terminated web application session. Requests from the client for a new web application session are compared to the ESID, and if an identifier associated with the request corresponds to the ESID, then the application session automatically returns to the terminated web application session. Accordingly, the user need not uselessly navigate, via a new session, states of the application which had already been navigated.

Reiche teaches computer network security and authentication. In particular, Reiche teaches a data network featuring an improved authentication and access control function (see col. 1, lines 26-28), and not improved navigation of stateful web applications.

Referring to claim 1, the Office asserts that Reiche discloses "receiving a termination uniform resource locator (URL) from a client relating to a terminated web application session, the termination URL including an external session identifier (ESID) identifying the terminated web

application session,” and equates the recited “terminated uniform resource locator” to item 204 in FIG. 2A of Reiche. However, item 204 is a decision step of determining whether a “special URL is present.” See also col. 8, lines 47-67. As described and defined by Reiche, a “special URL” is nothing more than a URL that is associated with an authentication process, as identified in the HTTP header sent by the browser for the URL. It is not a “termination URL” as recited by claim 1.

The Office further equates the recited “external session identifier (ESID)” with item 206 of FIG. 2A of Reiche. However, item 206 is related to a step of looking for a specific cookie in the HTTP header of the data sent by the browser of the client for the special URL. See col. 8, lines 59-61. This item 206 of Reiche is not an ESID, which is disclosed as a particular session ID of an application session to refer to a session at start time and thereafter, for termination and restart and return to a particular state of a previously-terminated application. Accordingly, Reiche does not anticipate claim 1, because Reiche neither teaches nor suggests receiving a terminated URL, and because Reiche neither teaches nor suggests the recited feature of an ESID.

In fact, the office cites the same passage and figures of Reiche in its rejection of the entire group of steps recited in claim 1. It should be clear to a person of ordinary skill that the use of an ESID to eventually serve “the new web application session according to the state related to the terminated web application session,” based on the ESID, is not anticipated by the authentication procedure taught by Reiche. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection, and a notice of allowability over Reiche as discussed above.

The Office issued similar reasons for rejecting independent claim 12, using the same section of Reiche as alleged anticipatory teachings. However, in light of the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 12 suffers the same shortcomings as the rejection of claim 1, and that claim 12 should be likewise allowable over Reiche. A notice to that effect is respectfully submitted.

The rejection of independent claim 18 was not described or laid out, and therefore Applicant assumes claim 18 should not be anticipated by Reiche, and should therefore be allowable. Claims 2, 4-10, 13-17, and 19 are allowable over Reiche at least for their dependence, directly or indirectly, on an allowable base claim.

**Rejections under 35 USC § 103**

Claims 3, 11, 18, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Reiche in view of Buckingham (6,961,776).

Claims 3, 11, 19, and 20 are allowable at least for their dependence, directly or indirectly, on an allowable base claim, as set forth above.

Regarding claim 18, as set forth above, Reiche fails to teach the recited ESID, and fails to teach any system that is configured to serve a new web application session in the state associated with the ESID if the request for the new web application session corresponds to the ESID. The combination of Buckingham with Reiche adds nothing useful to the teachings of Reiche, and in particular does not teach or suggest the recited claim limitations of claim 18. Buckingham teaches a session manager, which generates session IDs, but the session IDs taught by Buckingham are not used to associate a request for a new web application session. On the contrary, the session IDs taught by Buckingham merely identify a session of an executing web application. See in particular col. 20, line 30, where Buckingham discloses that a current session is destroyed, along with its associated session ID, upon logout. Accordingly, claim 18 is not unpatentable over Reiche in view of Buckingham. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection, and a notice of allowance of claim 18.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under section 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Offerman et al.* ("*Offerman*" hereinafter) (Patent Number WO 01/97012) in view of *Lane et al.* "Web Database Applications with PHP & MySQL", for the same reasons given in the International Search Report for (PCT/IP 03/06400) ("*Lane*" hereinafter) .

The rejections of claims 1-20 as being unpatentable over Offerman in view of Lane are improper under 35 U.S.C. 132, because the explanation by the Office lacks sufficient specificity. The rejection merely references the International Search Report for a PCT application corresponding to the present application, which itself provides no specific reasons why the claims are alleged to be obvious from Offerman in view of Lane, or why such combination of the references is justified. Such general and blanket statement to the International Search Report does not provide sufficient notice to Applicant, nor does it serve to advance the prosecution of the

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current subject matter. Accordingly, the rejection violates 35 U.S.C. 132 and is respectfully requested to be withdrawn, and a notice of allowance issued.

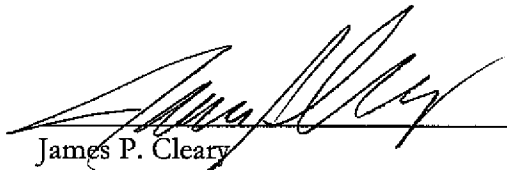
**CONCLUSION**

On the basis of the foregoing amendments, the pending claims are in condition for allowance. It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper.

Applicant is concurrently filing herewith a Petition for a one-month extension of time with the requisite fee. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 34874-060/2003P00056US01. If there are any questions regarding reply, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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